



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR


STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Thomas D. Watkins, Jr. 

DATE: May 24, 2004

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for Allocation of Title I School Improvement Funds for 2004-05

The Michigan Department of Education currently has \$7,374,084 in Title I School Improvement funds available to provide support to Title I schools that have the greatest need for assistance in improving student achievement.

Department staff are proposing to make these funds available according to the following criteria:

- Grants ranging from \$25,000 to \$45,000 would be provided to help support the Restructuring efforts in schools that developed Restructuring plans in 2003-04 and will be required to implement them in 2004-05.
- Grant funds in the same range would be provided to schools that were in the Corrective Action phase in 2003-04, as well as schools that are newly identified for Corrective Action or Restructuring based on their 2003-04 Adequate Yearly Progress results.
- The amount provided for each school would depend on the number of identified schools in the district, as follows:
 1. Districts with fewer than 5 identified schools would receive \$45,000 per school.
 2. Districts with 5 to 10 identified schools would receive \$35,000 per school.
 3. Districts with more than 10 identified schools would receive \$25,000 per school.

This approach is designed to reflect the higher cost of providing services in districts with few identified schools, and the cost efficiency possible in districts with large numbers of schools to be served.

The funds would be available to help support external technical assistance and professional development for staff during the 2004-05 school year. School districts and academies applying for these funds would be required to provide:

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- a clear rationale for the Corrective Action or Restructuring option(s) selected, including data to support the decision
- details on how the plan would be implemented, including a management plan
- the type/model of technical assistance or school reform selected – keeping in mind that Corrective Action is about **instructional change** and Restructuring is about a **change in governance/decision-making**
- the professional development activities that would take place to support the option(s), including staff involved, timelines, and expected outcomes
- Intermediate School District or Regional Educational Service Agency's involvement and letter of support

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for allocation of Title I School Improvement Funds for 2004-05 as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated May 24, 2004.